inflows and send a positive signal in the present difficult economic scenario. The adoption of guidelines contained in Press Note 3 of 2009 would ensure that approval of Government of India/FIPB would be required for establishment/change in ownership or control of an Indian company from resident Indian citizens to non-resident entities in sectors with sectoral caps.

Export of wheat

872. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether with good foodgrain reserve stocks, low off-take by PDS and a promising Kharif harvest, Government is considering to lift the ban on wheat exports;

(b) whether the US Department of Agriculture's recent report has suggested that India may ease the two-year old ban on wheat exports shipments;

(c) whether the USDA report also suggests that in the event India decides to lift the ban on wheat exports, it requires extending an export subsidy; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) No, Sir. Wheat exports on private account have been banned till further orders. Wheat exports from Central Pool have also been banned. However. keeping in view the present Wheat stocks available in the Central Pool. Government has allowed exports of upto 20 lakh tons of Wheat from Central Pool on diplomatic basis to friendly countries.

(b) and (c) Yes. Sir.

(d) The US Department of Agriculture, Foreign Agriculture Service (FAS), in its Global Agricultural Information Network (GAIN) report published on 14.01.2009 has reported that the Indian Government may remove export restrictions on Wheat and make Wheat available from Government stocks for exports after the harvest in May. As per the USDA Report, because of the high support price of Wheat in India, Indian Wheat is unlikely to be competitive in the World market without an export subsidy.

Restricting FDI in sensitive sectors

873. SHRI DHARAM PAL SABHARWAL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether in view of 26/11 terror attack in Mumbai, Government will restrict the entry of foreign airlines to invest in sensitive sectors like aviation and telecom;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether allowing more Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in aviation sector at this juncture is against the national interest; and

(d) if so, the steps being taken to block the FDI in aviation sector for security reasons?